
6. NATIONAL MASS CASUALTY MANAGEMENT PLAN

A. NATIONAL RESPONSE TO MASS CASUALTY EVENTS

A National Mass Casualty Management Plan is a component of the National Disaster Response Plan, but can function as an autonomous plan.

In an extensive disaster involving mass casualties, the National Disaster Response Plan will be activated with its mass casualty component. In case of a serious mass casualty event which is limited to a localized geographic area (e.g., airport crash), only the Mass Casualty Management Plan component of the National Disaster Response Plan will be activated.

If the extent of the mass casualty event does not require the activation of the entire National Mass Casualty Management Plan (e.g., bus crash involving twenty victims), the rescue organization must follow the procedures outlined for the Mass Casualty Management System. In this situation, the activation of the Emergency Operations Center is not mandatory.

Each nation or territory will define, in the introduction to its Mass Casualty Management Plan, what constitutes a limited mass casualty event and a large mass casualty event.

B. DISTRICT RESPONSE TO MASS CASUALTY EVENTS

A district can generally be described as an administrative or geographic division of a territory, the center of which is the most populous township which is generally served by a Police Station, a Fire Station and main Health Center. In mass casualty events occurring at some distance from the central level, the district staff will be the first group of persons to respond.

Each district will have to respond immediately with its own resources to a mass casualty event. It may be necessary to maintain this response for prolonged periods if populations are isolated (as in the case of flooding or landslides). Therefore, each district must develop in coordination with the central level its own Mass Casualty Management Plan as a component of the National Mass Casualty Management Plan.

The involvement of the entire community is essential if there is to be an efficient district response. Hence any district plan must seek to mobilize and coordinate community resources.